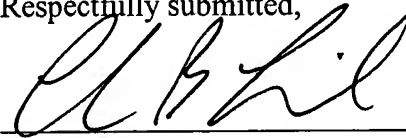


REMARKS

Applicants respectfully assert that the foregoing amendment is not being submitted for purpose of delay and does not involve new matter. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite entry of the foregoing amendment, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on June 24, 2004.



Signature — Gloria L. Knox